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MAHMOUD AL KAYED  
Advertising Manager: FERNANDO FRANCIS

Editorial and advertising offices:  
JORDAN PRESS FOUNDATION  
University Road, P.O. Box 6710, Amman, Jordan.

Telephones: 67171-2-3-4  
Telex: 1497 Al Rai JO, Cables: JORTIMES, Amman, Jordan.

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## Where the gun rules

THERE ARE two maxims about revolutions which seem to apply in the case of Iran: one is that a revolution is not a garden party; the other, that there are no police in a revolution.

One can always draw parallels between today's revolutionary movements and what has occurred in past history: the American, French, Russian and Chinese revolutions often provide useful models. But what has happened, and is happening, in Iran, does appear unique. Given the volatility of the Iranian political atmosphere—and such cultural factors as the apparent Iranian obsession with death, mourning and martyrdom—no one ever contended that these revolutionary changes could be achieved completely peacefully. But what should worry the Iranians now, as the Ayatollah's government battles for control, is the wholesale distribution of arms to the population, particularly in Tehran, and the apparent delight with which armed gangs have set about using them.

The weapons first appeared in the streets a week ago, when government armories were broken into: this pattern continued throughout the weekend "battle of Tehran." The result is the chaotic picture painted by a Reuters correspondent in Tehran:

"Cars were crammed with beaming men in makeshift military uniform and motorcycle helmets waving anything from a hand grenade, a pistol or a Molotov cocktail to a lance, a butcher's knife or a baseball bat. The vast majority of them had learnt how to use their weapons in five-minute courses behind barricades of sandbags where even old women helped make bombs... The new authorities had to broadcast appeals to civilians to stop cowboy-style target practice at birds and animals."

Some revolutionary groups argue that weapons must not be surrendered until the situation has stabilised and the risk of an "imperialist" coup is eliminated. But surely, it is in precisely the anarchic conditions now obtaining in Iran that any counter-revolutionary opportunities might arise. It is conceivable, if things continue as they have in the past two days, that the revolution itself could be threatened: that those who have lost power could stealthily get it back, or that outside powers seeking to manipulate the course of events could interfere, all in the guise of one or more of the many rival armed groups who now battle for control of the streets and cities. Another, equally unhappy, eventuality could be a protracted civil war on the Lebanese pattern.

However, latest reports from Tehran indicate that the Ayatollah's calls for peace and order are now being heeded. We hope that the Iranian people's historic movement will emerge unscathed from the dangers that menace it.

## ARAB PRESS COMMENTARY

Under the heading "Who cheats Whom?" AL RA'I says Thursday that in his latest statements on the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan revealed the bottom ground on which Israel had built its aggressive and racist strategy in the heart of the Arab World.

The newspaper says that Dayan has admitted the existence of "something" called the PLO, after Golda Meir had denied there was such a people. But, Al Ra'i adds that such a recognition "collides on the wall of the Zionist strategy based on discarding the real facts and trying to fabricate new facts that tally with this fanatic, locked-in strategy."

Under the heading "The First Test for Bazargan Government" AL DUSTOUR says the incident involving the U.S. embassy in Tehran on Wednesday was a reasonable test for the new Islamic government of Iran which was able to treat it in a responsible and wise manner, and to pass the difficult test it faced only two days after it took over.

The Bazargan government behaved in a way that underscored its respect for the responsibility of the state for the safety of people living within its territory irrespective of their affiliation and ideology, not to mention the respect for their diplomatic immunity and international convention, the newspaper continues.

The enlightened behaviour of the Iranian government had its positive echo in international quarters, contrary to the misgivings spread by enemies of the new Islamic regime in Iran which they described as a "relapse into the dark mediaeval ages as Menachem Begin has said in his calumnious and slanderous utterances against Islam."

## WHAT'S GOING ON

Photo Documentary Exhibit  
The French Cultural Centre has a documentary exhibition on display about Georges Sand. Open during regular hours.

### Photo Exhibit

The Soviet Cultural Centre presents a photo display commemorating the sixty-first anniversary of the establishment of the Soviet armed forces.

### Russian Film

The Soviet Cultural Centre presents part II of a four-part film entitled "The Siege." The film starts at 4:00 pm.

### French Film

The French Cultural Centre presents a film by Yannick Bellon entitled "La femme de Jean" at 7:30 p.m. French version with Arabic subtitles.

## King Hussein opens new mosque in Salt



SALT, Feb. 15 (JNA)—His Majesty King Hussein paid a visit here today and opened the new grand mosque of the city.

The King, accompanied by Prime Minister Mudar Badran, President of the National Consultative Council Ahmad Al Lawzi, the Chief of the Royal

Court Sharif Abdul Hamid Sharaf, the Court Minister Amer Khammash and several Cabinet members and senior officials, also attended prayers at the mosque.

They later visited the teachers training institute where they met with teachers and students to discuss the institute's various needs.



## PLO to raise level of representation in Jordan

By a Jordan Times staff reporter

AMMAN, Feb. 15—Talks today between a senior Palestine Liberation Organisation aide and Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Hassan Ibrahim are expected to lead to the upgrading of PLO representation here.

Deputy head of the PLO's Political Department Abdel Razzak Yahya is in Amman on a two-day visit to pave the way for him to assume responsibilities as chief of the PLO office here, informed sources told the Jordan Times.

Brig. Yahya, former commander of the Palestine Liberation Army, met for an hour today with Mr. Ibrahim. Although officials did not disclose the subject of discussions between them, sources have said that Brig. Yahya was named last December by the PLO Executive Committee to head the organisation's office in Amman.

The visit is also seen as another effort to re-establish friendly ties between the PLO and Jordan.

On his arrival yesterday, Brig. Yahya told reporters he was here to prepare for a visit by a PLO delegation to Jordan for talks on rapprochement.

The delegation, to arrive in a few days at the invitation of Mr. Ibrahim, will be led by the head of the PLO's Political Department, Mr. Farouk Al Kaddoumi, who is now in Europe. Brig. Yahya said, and will include Mahmoud Abbas, a member of the Central Committee of Fatah, the biggest organisation within the PLO.

Brig. Yahya leaves tomorrow for Damascus where he will join the delegation coming to Amman. On his return, he is expected to remain in Amman as head of the PLO office here.

The appointment of a senior PLO official with the rank of Mr. Yahya to head the Jordan office is seen by observers here as a boost to the level of PLO representation and as an indication that the ongoing dialogue between Jordan and the PLO has produced positive results.

## Save Jerusalem Committee congratulates Khomeini

AMMAN, Feb. 15 (J.T.)—The "Save Jerusalem Committee" in Jordan has cabled Ayatollah Khomeini thanking him for his "reassuring statements" on Jerusalem and the Palestine problem.

The committee, a private organisation grouping prominent Jordanian and Palestinian figures, handed a copy of the cable to the Iranian ambassador in Amman when he received committee members on Wednesday. The committee congratulated Imam Khomeini on the success of his revolution and thanked him for his reassuring statements on the Palestine problem and on the Jerusalem issue in particular.

"The Save Jerusalem Committee attaches great hopes to your strong and faithful support for the Palestinian cause and for the safety of Jerusalem and the Aqsa Mosque," the cable told the Ayatollah.

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"The Save Jerusalem Committee is headed by Sheikh Abdul Hamid Al Sayeh, a former minister of Awqaf exiled from the West Bank, and includes the exiled mayor of Arab Jerusalem Rouhi Al Khafif; Mr. Mohammad Abdul Rabban Khalifeh; Suleiman Al Hadidi and Ismail Al Mahadin.

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## Ceremony in Jordan hasn't changed much through the ages



Now aged 36, this Egyptian potter employed at the Al Khalili pottery has practised his craft for 29 years. He learned it from his father who learned it from his father "and farther back," he said. He responded with an emphatic "no" when asked if he wanted his sons to follow him. Here he begins work on a plant pot, the best-selling product in winter. He operates the wheel with his feet.

winter. He operates the wheel with his foot.

ties," he said. "Whether they do carry on beyond this generation is questionable. In very few places do you find sons wanting to follow their fathers, or their fathers encouraging them to. This is a post-pottery age in that new materials have taken over 70 or 80 per cent of the function pottery used to have."

"I suspect that the tradition of the pottery being made in Jordan today doesn't go back more than a hundred years. The potters themselves probably don't know—one man told me the tradition in his

"Almost all of it goes back to two centres on the West Bank: Hebron and Ramallah, in its type and inspiration, the shapes and the way they do it. 'Khalili' means 'from Hebron'. They have a tradition of white pottery."

seen them and they're modern. "Village women don't make them for sale, but for their own use, to replace a broken one. They collect pot shards, grind them up and mix them with water and clay. They make them entirely by hand using coils. These pots are very primitive. They're fired in an open-pit fire in the ground filled with dung, sawdust, and shrubs. They put the pot down inside it and cover it with brush and timbers and keep a constant fire on top of it for a few hours until it's fired enough for use. There's one of these pots in front of somebody's shop in Deraa on the road to Syria looking very neolithic."

He continued: "In Jerusalem there is a tradition of glazed pot-

Aside from the wheel, the only tool used in pottery making is a metal scraper. Within five minutes a pot can be formed on the wheel, but preparing the clay for the wheel is a laborious procedure and firing it afterwards takes considerable skill. The potter is paid by the piece. He earns about 10 piastres for a small item and 30 for a large one. The finger-moulded edge was popular also in Byzantine and Islamic pottery styles and similar finishing touches have been found on pottery from Tell el Ghurbat. Action has to be taken if 500 P. 11.

The two potters employed at the Al Khalili works may each turn out as many as 200 pieces in a day. A work day of hard physical labour may last 10 or 14 hours. The other workmen keep them supplied with prepared clay (top left) and remove their work for storage. After it has

# **The style of decoration goes back to Neolithic times**

terry made mainly for tourists today. It comes from Turkey or Armenia. It probably is a hundred years old in Jerusalem, but has no roots there. Before they started mass producing them, they had quite a bit of originality and were more aesthetically pleasing. Collectors want the old pieces: the 50 or 60 year-old pieces are very fine.

est in crafts, particularly pottery. Adult education courses and high schools frequently carry pottery-making courses. I know of a number of people who have taken up pottery making as a hobby, and also as a way to earn extra income. They produce, usually, glazed ware, vases and plates.

People in the States are going back

"In a strange way in the United States and in England, particularly, there is a revival of interest in appreciating hand-made material and are rejecting machine-made stuff."



Children of the pottery's owner perch on one of his three kilns. Anything that burns is used as fuel: behind them are car battery cases on the ground and out of view are heaps of trash that include tires, shoes, and plastic bags. Potters buy from service stations barrels of used motor oil in which they soak wood chips acquired from box factories. By law kilns must face the desert, but the neighbours are unfortunate when the wind is from the East. Operating the kilns takes considerable know-how: An even temperature, about three times that of an ordinary oven must be maintained. One of the boys said: "Being a potter is hard work. I want to study and be a teacher."

Abdul Fattah runs one of the retail outlets for Al Khalili pottery. He is selling a vase for 25 piastres and a saucer to fit for 10. He is in charge of a small hut expanding mosque near Marka Camp which uses profits from the sale of the pottery to support itself. He feels that although glass and plastic are also useful, the properties of pottery are superior for some things—for storing drinking water, for preparing nives, as plant containers. Pottery from the Al Khalili works is also exported to Iraq and Saudi Arabia.

## LOCAL

## EXCHANGE

## RATES

U.S. dollar	297.00/299.00
U.K. sterling	596.00/600.00
West German mark	160.00/161.00
Swiss franc	177.30/178.40
French franc	69.60/70.00
Italian lire	
For every 100)	35.30/35.50
Japanese yen	
(for every 100)	148.40/149.30
Dutch guilder	147.90/148.80
Belgian franc	
(for every ten)	101.50/102.10

NAME OF COMPANY	Par value	Volume Traded	Last Buying Offer	Last Selling Offer	Closing Price
Jordan Petroleum Co.	JD 5,000	702	6.560	6.570	6.570
Jordan Cement Factories	JD 10,000	1,972	—	14.450	14.400
Housing Bank	JD 1,000	2,320	1.150	1.180	1.160
Jordan-Gulf Bank	JD 1,000	1,754	—	1.050	1.030
Dar Aldawa Development and Investment Co.	JD 1,000	2,132	2.000	2.030	2.000
Arab Aluminium Co.	JD 1,000	1,067	0.950	0.970	0.970
Bank of Jordan	JD 5,000	740	7.300	7.450	7.400
Arab Investment Bank	JD 1,000	107	1.070	—	1.070
Jordan National Bank	JD 5,000	1,241	7.300	7.450	7.300
Arah Bank	JD 10,000	14,030	70.150	72.000	70.150
Cairo-Amman Bank	JD 5,000	8,642	—	—	6.550
Jordan Brewery Co.	JD 1,000	1,147	—	—	1.600
Confectionary and Chocolate Co.	JD 1,000	216	—	—	1.000
Garage Owners Federation Office Co.	JD 1,000	667	4.450	—	4.450
<b>Total volume traded, Thursday, Feb. 15: JD 36,737</b>					
<b>Total number of shares traded: 9,123</b>					
Government Development Bonds	Par value	Number traded	Year of maturity	Selling price	
	JD 5,000	115	1979	5.025	
	JD 5,000	20	1980	5.160	
	JD 5,000	67	1982	5.080	
	JD 5,000	80	1985	5.080	
<b>Total volume traded: JD 2,656</b>	JD 10,000	120	1988	10.200	

# The faces of Australian arts



Australian Aboriginal actor David Gulpilli, left, with American actor Richard Chamberlain in the Australian film 'The Last Wave'.

The 1970s must be rated as Australia's most vigorous decade in the arts, and Australians in the arts overseas have achieved widespread recognition as well as commercial success. Australian films have won international awards. Australian musicians and music groups are part of the world music scene--as are Australian artists and performers in many fields. The Australian Ballet has a high international reputation. Australian craftsmen are represented in prestigious exhibitions. Australian plays are reaching international audiences. Australian literature is studied around the world, and several contemporary Australian writers have international reputations. The Australian author Patrick White received the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1973, and in 1978 Colleen McCullough's novel 'The Thorn Birds' established a world record price for paperback rights. (Australian information service)



Australian artist Sidney Nolan with one of the paintings from his series on the Australian explorers Burke and Wills.



Leading Australian jewellery designers Darani Lewers, left, and her husband Helge Larsson have exhibited in many international exhibitions. Darani Lewers conducted a workshop at the World Crafts Council Workshop in Kyoto, Japan, in September 1978.



The Australian Ballet in a performance of Swan Lake.



Australian actors, from left, Ray Barrett, Graeme Blundell and Jeanni Drynan in the film version of the successful Australian play 'Don's Party'.



Principal artists of the Australian Ballet, Kelvin Coombes and Rowe, rehearse in Melbourne.



Australian opera singer Joan Sutherland, in a scene from 'Hoffman' at the Sydney Opera House, has a high international reputation.

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FORECAST FOR FRIDAY, FEB. 16, 1979

## Your DAILY HOROSCOPE

on the CARROLL-RIGTER INSTITUTE

**GENERAL TENDENCIES:** A day when you can meet interesting persons and work out an advanced plan of action under which you and they are able to make rapid headway in the near future.

**ARIES** (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Try to understand the ideas associates and give them the backing they need. Make evening a very happy one.

**TAURUS** (Apr. 20 to May 20) You can work in a most operative way with fellow workers and produce a great deal today. Follow the advice of experts.

**GEMINI** (May 21 to June 21) Find new ways and means to have increased abundance in the days ahead. An to make your property more valuable.

**MOON CHILDREN** (June 22 to July 21) Try to please only members more and increased harmony at home. Make sure business affairs are in good order.

**LEO** (July 22 to Aug. 21) Show more cooperation with your allies and get better results. Make plans to engage favorite hobby with congenials.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) You are able to handle money matters very well by yourself, so don't become involved with profiteers. Be careful of strangers.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) You can get much accomplished today, especially where personal matters are concerned. Be sure to keep promises you have made.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Investigate a puzzling matter and come up with the right answers. Show your true one that you are truly devoted.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Be sure to handle business matters early in the day so you will have time for crucial affairs later. Use common sense.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Contact the most influential persons you know and gain the backing and advice you need from them. Show that you have poise.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) If you see a direct approach now, you can gain your most cherished aims. Adopt new attitude and get good results.

**PISCES** (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Make sure that you keep promises made and show others that you are trustworthy. Sure to handle your money wisely.

## OREN BRIDGE

Y CHARLES H. GOREN  
AND OMAR SHARIF

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### ASK OMAR

The opponents reach no trump in an auction by my partner has over. I have a singleton in suit but have possible in another suit. Which lead his suit or

Q. Recently you had this hand in a column:

+ 5  
V K 9 8 7 4  
+ 0 10 3 2  
+ 4 7 3 2  
+ Q 9 8 4 + 6  
Q 6 5 3 + 5  
Q 0 9 + A K J 7 6  
5 4  
+ 10 5 + Q 9 8 4  
+ A K 10 7 3 2  
+ 7 4 10 2  
0 8  
+ A K 6

Against four spades, West led the queen of diamonds and continued the suit. Declarer ruffed and eventually made the contract. A thinking East would overtake the king of diamonds and shift to his trump, and the contract would be doomed. Not so? — C.P. Cincinnati, Ohio.

Q. Not so. Declarer wins the king of spades, cashes the ace of hearts and runs the two. Assume that West does not cover — it makes no difference whether he does or doesn't. Declarer continues with another heart finesse, then discards a club on the king of hearts.

Now declarer simply ruffs a diamond, cashes the ace and king of clubs and exits with a low trump. West wins the eight and plays the queen, but declarer counters by allowing the queen to hold, and he must make the last two tricks with the ace-ten of trumps. His only losers are one diamond and two trumps.

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The postman is a highly important contact person, particularly for old people and people living in remote areas. He usually knows what is going on and can sometimes help out in emergencies. In future, West Germany's 60,000 postmen will regard personal attention as an official part of their function. The Bundespost is using some of its postmen as social workers in specially chosen areas. The postman operates as a contact person between the citizen and the social office. If the experiment is a success, this helper service will be extended to cover the entire country. (DAD photo)

## JUMBLE

THAT SCRABLED WORD GAME  
by Hann Arnold and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

SIADY

# E. German leader begins 4-nation tour of Africa

EAST BERLIN, Feb. 15 (R) -- East German leader Erich Honecker left today on a four-nation tour of Africa which will take him to the Libyan Jamahiriya and three of the "frontline" states bordering white-ruled southern Africa. The official ADN News Agency said the Communist Party chief's trip, expected to last about ten days, would start in Tripoli and include Angola, Zambia and Mozambique. He will have talks with national leaders in all four countries.

The tour will help cement East Berlin's ties with some of its closest political and economic partners in Africa and give Mr. Honecker a platform to voice his support for black nationalist movements fighting governments in Rhodesia, Namibia (South West Africa) and South Africa.

East Germany has given considerable economic aid to Angola and Mozambique, where left-wing governments took over after the Portuguese pulled out in 1975, and has nurtured close links with the oil-rich Libyan Jamahiriya.

It will be the first visit by an East German leader to Africa and follows one month after Mr. Honecker went to India for talks on developing trade links.

Western diplomats estimate that East Germany has some 4,500 advisers in Africa, more than half of them in Angola and Mozambique.

Western newspapers have claimed that East German officers are helping train guerrilla armies here for action against the white-ruled southern states.

But East Berlin has denied military involvement and flatly rejected South African claims that hundreds of East German troops are stationed in Angola near the Namibian border.

East Germany says it has sent only medical, educational and economic experts to help develop the former colonies and aid guerrilla groups and refugees. It maintains that material aid has been

limited to farm machinery, medicines and blankets.

Scores of Namibian refugees and guerrillas wounded in South African raids on their camps in Angola have also been flown to East German hospitals for treatment.

In East Berlin a spokesman for the South West Africa People's Organisation (SWAPO) guerrilla movement fighting for control in Namibia said he had not been informed whether Mr. Honecker would have talks with SWAPO leaders while in Luanda.

SWAPO, the Rhodesian Patriotic Front guerrilla forces of Joshua Nkomo and the African National Congress fighting white rule in South Africa all have offices in East Berlin financed by the country's aid-giving solidarity committee.

From supporting Mr. Nkomo's Zambian-based guerrillas, East Germany's links with Lusaka have so far been slight. In Mozambique, however, its influence rates alongside that of the Soviet Union and Cuba, and East Germany maintains the biggest embassy in Maputo.

In all three Black African states Mr. Honecker is expected to try to boost trade links. East Germany wants wider markets for its industrial and farm machinery and needs secure supplies of raw materials in return.

Mr. Honecker's trip to the Libyan Jamahiriya returns a visit to East Berlin by Colonel Muam-

mar Qadhafi last June. The two states have developed close political links in the past few years and since 1974 their trade has more than quadrupled.

The powerful ties between Tripoli and East Berlin were forged by politburo member Werner Lamberz, a rising star regarded as a future East German leader until he was killed in a helicopter crash in Libya last March.

Mr. Honecker may also discuss oil supplies with Libya. Because the Soviet Union is unlikely to satisfy all its future needs, East Germany last year began wooing Iran, and the Shah was due to make a state visit to East Berlin last autumn. The trip was postponed because of growing unrest in Iran, and following the Shah's overthrow East Berlin had to look around for new possibilities to satisfy its energy needs.

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## Emergency situation grips Lisbon amid severe flooding in Portugal

LISBON, Feb. 15 (R) -- Thousands of Portuguese thronged the streets today in search of water as the capital's drinking supplies failed amid the country's worst floods for a century.

About 70 tankers supplied by the army, the forestry commission and the fire service brought in emergency supplies. Some people drew water from ornamental ponds, the occasional functioning street pipe or the sea.

The water board reduced supplies to ten per cent. It was not known how long it would take to repair water pumps still submerged by the floods. Over 10,000 people have been made homeless by the floods. Many river boats have been turned into makeshift homes for those unable to find accommodation on dry land.

Eight metre waves and winds over 170 kilometres an hour lashed Portugal's west coast, wreaking havoc. The port at the multi-million dollar Sines petrochemical complex just south of Lis-

bon was severely damaged, holiday beach houses were swept away, the northern oil terminal of Leixoes was partially wrecked and part of a hotel at Ericeira 50 kilometres north of Lisbon crumpled into the sea.

Hundreds of inland fishermen and soldiers rescued livestock marooned on tiny islands amid the swirling floodwaters. Major roads were reported impassable in 50 areas due to washed-out bridges, fallen trees and hail and snow on higher ground.

Telephone workers in the capital and the northern city of Oporto continued their strike for the ninth day and chemists complained they had exhausted essential medical supplies because they could not place new orders.

The government has set up an emergency committee to ensure telephone communications to essential public services such as hospitals are maintained.

## UAE, Qatar raise oil prices

BAHRAIN, Feb. 15 (R) -- Abu Dhabi and Qatar today announced they had raised the differential premium they charge for quality oil. Saudi Arabia also had either increased or was about to increase its light crude premium, oil industry sources told Reuters.

The United Arab Emirates' Petroleum Ministry spokesman said the premium on oil from Murban and Zakum fields had been raised by \$1.10 a barrel and of Umm Shaif field by \$0.90. "The increases, effective today, are not on the OPEC prices but on the premium we charge for the quality of our oil," the spokesman said.

In Doha, a government official said the premium on oil from Dokhan field had gone up by

\$1.10 a barrel and from offshore Belut field by \$0.93.

The premiums on oil from Abu Dhabi's three oilfields rose by 76, 68 and 44 cents a barrel, respectively, on Jan. 1. When OPEC's official prices were increased by five per cent for the first quarter of 1979. The official OPEC prices

are to be raised again quarterly this year, giving a total 14.5 per cent increase in 1979.

Light crude which is sulphur free, normally brings a higher price, and the loss of Iranian crude, which also included the lighter variety, has increased demand in the West.

## Vietnam accuses China of preparing for war

HONG KONG, Feb. 15 (R) -- Hanoi today accused Peking of feverishly preparing for war against Vietnam and called for the immediate withdrawal of a Chinese battalion from Vietnamese territory.

A Vietnamese Foreign Ministry

spokesman, quoted by the Vietnam News Agency, said the Chinese leadership was systematically implementing an organised and pre-meditated adventure against Vietnam, seriously threatening peace and stability in Asia.

Yesterday Vietnam said a battalion of Chinese troops had crossed their troubled border, taken up position on a hill and was firing at surrounding villages.

The propaganda battle between the Asian communist neighbours first started after the mass exodus of ethnic Chinese from Vietnam last year, has escalated since Phnom Penh was seized by Hanoi-backed insurgents last month.

## Negotiations to stabilise world wheat supply end in deadlock

GENEVA, Feb. 15 (R) -- Negotiations to regulate world wheat trade ended in deadlock over prices and the food needs of developing nations.

A 70-nation conference last night broke off its third attempt in a year to draft a pact ensuring stable supplies within an agreed price range through a system of reserve stocks built up when the price decline and reduced when it rose.

Delegates set no date for new session, but agreed to try again when "the necessary conditions exist for a resumption of the negotiations."

A major reason for the breakdown was that Third World importing countries considered "trigger" prices for buying and selling reserve stocks were too high.

The six major wheat-trading countries-exporters Argentina, Australia, Canada and the United States and importers Japan and the European Economic Community (EEC)--wanted stockpiling to start at \$140 a tonne, and to release the stocks when the price rose to \$200 a tonne.

Other unresolved issues were

the size of reserves and special measures to help developing nations buy and store stocks.

Third World importers wanted the "trigger" prices set as low as possible around today's market levels, but sought large reserve stocks to give them food security.

But U.S. Assistant Agriculture Secretary Dale Hathaway told reporters that while large stocks were needed to make an effective impact on the market, prices would have to be higher if stocks were to be a stabilising factor.

In Washington, Agriculture Secretary Bob Bergland said: "There would now be consultation between governments of all participants, but he ventured no date for resumption of the conference."

The conference decided to ask the London-based International Wheat Council to extend an existing 1971 consultative agreement on wheat, which has no provisions regulating prices, beyond its June

# World News Briefs

Chad president quits, seeks French protection

PARIS, Feb. 15 (R) -- Chad President Felix Malloum has abdicated power after seeking refuge under French army protection at N'djamena airport, well-informed sources said here today. Malloum appears to have been replaced by Gendarmes Commander Wadal Kader Kamougue, a former Foreign minister who is leading loyalist troops fighting against rebel Prince Hissene Habre, the sources said. Earlier today the Sudanese Agency reported that troops backing Mr. Habre were advancing on all fronts in the battle for control of N'djamena, capital city of the former French colony in West-central Africa. Paris sources said fighting flared again after a ceasefire negotiated by the command of French forces based in Chad last night only a few hours. Fighting erupted on Monday when supporters of Mr. Habre, a former militia leader, attacked the presidential palace and airport. During a short ceasefire French troops were able to escort about 1,000 nationals living in N'djamena to the airport, where they were put in barracks awaiting repatriation, the sources said. Mr. Habre's forces appeared to control much of the capital, but few details were available because direct communications with Chad had been cut off since Monday. French troops were called into Chad last year to repel attacks by the Libyan-backed National Liberation Front (FROLINAT) in the north of the country. Mr. Habre was a FROLINAT leader. He left the movement to join the government and was appointed prime minister last August, but his relations with President Malloum soon soured.

Many Zairean refugees reported home again

BRUSSELS, Feb. 15 (R) -- About 140,000 refugees from Zaire have returned home from Angola, U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees Paul Hartling said yesterday. Mr. Hartling told a press conference that the refugees returned to their villages in the southern Shaba province following a general amnesty by President Mobutu Sese Seko. The amnesty was introduced last year and was due to end on Jan. 1, but it had now been extended until July 1, he said. Mr. Hartling, on an official visit to Belgium, said there were about one million refugees or displaced persons in the world, for whom his organisation spent \$12.5 million last year. He listed three main "problem areas": Southeast Asia, with refugees from Vietnam, Cambodia and Laos, and refugees from Burma in Bangladesh; Africa, with refugees from Zaire and Namibia in Angola, and refugees from the Horn of Africa involving Ethiopia, Somalia and Djibouti; and Latin America with refugees from Nicaragua in Costa Rica and Honduras and from Chile in Argentina.

Police recover ancient Greek sculpture

NEW YORK, Feb. 15 (R) -- Police last night recovered a 2,500-year-old Greek marble head, worth an estimated \$150,000, which was stolen from New York's Metropolitan Museum of Art last Friday. Police said the untitled sculpture of a bearded man was found in good condition in a baggage locker at Grand Central Railway Station, about three kilometres from the Museum. A spokesman said he was not sure whether police had any suspects in the theft or what had led them to the locker. "The investigation is continuing," he said. The robbery was described by the museum, which spends about \$13 million a year on security, as the first major theft in its 110-year history. The fifth century B.C. head, almost life size and with a slightly damaged nose, was stolen when the gallery in which it stood was unguarded for ten minutes on Friday afternoon.

30 expiry date.

The conference also called for extension of a food aid convention linked to the 1971 pact providing 4.25 million tonnes of grain annually for human consumption by developing countries.

Mr. Hathaway said he expected there would now be consultation between governments of all participants, but he ventured no date for resumption of the conference.

In Washington, Agriculture Secretary Bob Bergland said: "Failure of the talks meant 'we're back to square one and need to look at all the options,' and indicated this could mean significant agreements with individual countries."

## New world darts champ hits jackpot

LONDON, Feb. 15 (R) -- Darts--the other pastime British beer-drinkers use to exercise their right arms--is about to turn a 33-year-old carpenter into a highly-paid international sports star.

Last weekend England's John Lowe became the world professional darts champion and immediately his backers launched a campaign that is expected to earn him £60,000 in the next year.

For the uninitiated, darts is a sport in which two players throw alternately three darts at a circular target from a distance of nearly two and a half metres. The target is divided into segments, with from one point to 20 points--there are small areas in each segment where a dart scores double or treble--and a player wins it when down from 501 points to nought, finishing with a double.

Darts has become a way of life in British public houses with its origins dating back more than 400 years. It is estimated that there are more than six million darts players in the British Isles today, half of them in the 18-25 age bracket.

But while Britain is likely to remain the major centre for darts interest in the game is spreading all the time and a large part of John Lowe's riches this year is likely to come from an American tour in July and August.

Between July 31 and Aug. 20 Mr. Lowe will play three tournaments in California--the North American Open with \$40,000 in prize money, the Santa Monica Open with \$10,000 to be won and the Golden Gate Classic worth \$15,000. Then there is the World Cup team tournament in Las Vegas and the Las Vegas Open October and November.

In the best tradition of sporting heroes, Mr. Lowe's introduction to darts was quite by chance. Twelve years ago Mr. Lowe was enjoying a pint of beer in the White Hart pub in the Derbyshire village of New Tupton. A game of darts between two regulars was in progress when one man dropped out. Mr. Lowe stepped in to make up the numbers--it was the first time he had played.

The man whose place he took never returned and Mr. Lowe still has his darts. "I suppose at the very least I owe him a set of darts," Mr. Lowe said in a recent interview.

Since that chance beginning Mr. Lowe has played in more than 40 tournaments, won 36 of them and was twice runner-up. On two occasions he finished second, Leighton Rees, a hefty-built Welshman, was the man who got the better of him.

It was billed as a showdown when Mr. Lowe qualified to play Mr. Rees, the defending champion, in last Saturday's world final. Before a television audience of six million, Mr. Lowe won the best-of-nine sets final 5-0, dropping only three games out of 18 on the way.

For the man who once made a living with carpenter's tools, a set of three darts is about to make his fortune.

## Unrest in Spain's military

By William Robinson

General Jose Vega Rodriguez, the former army chief of staff, in a newspaper interview: "There's no coup d'etat climate in the armed forces at the moment."

But a former army captain court-martialed in 1976 along with eight other middle-ranking officers for belonging to a secret, liberal association called the Democratic Military Union (UDM) said the attempted coup went deeper than was generally believed.

Fernando Reinein, now a journalist who has kept close contacts with the military since his release from prison in 1977, said the two ultra-right-wing officers arrested represented only the tip of the iceberg.

"They were allowed to go ahead with it by other officers in order to see what would happen," Mr. Reinein said in an interview.

The two, civil guard Lieutenant-Colonel Antonio Tejero Molina and national police Captain Ricardo Saenz de Sinesillas, are alleged to have met in a Madrid cafe with three other officers on Nov. 11 and planned to seize Prime Minister Adolfo Suarez in his Moncloa Palace residence and force the formation of a "government of national salvation."

Army chiefs poured scorn on the plot as a ridiculous affair that went no further than a few hot-heads. Commented Lieutenant-

Colonel Jose Reinein: "There's no coup d'etat climate in the armed forces at the moment."

Recently, a government spokesman said judicial proceedings had been opened against "two or three" other military officers for alleged participation in the plot.

A well informed senior army officer in effect confirmed widespread suspicion about the extent of the plot. "It could have been very important, but it was stopped in time," the officer, who asked not to be named, told Reuters.

What has exacerbated the feelings of conservative officers more than anything else is the wave of urban guerrilla violence, mainly by the Basque separatist organisation ETA, unleashed on Spain over the past year.

Six of ETA's victims were military officers--including an army general and a lieutenant-colonel last year and Madrid's military governor last month.

ETA also killed 32 policemen and civil guards last year and has claimed responsibility for the deaths of nine others since last Jan. 1.

Thousands of extreme right-wingers joined them in the three-

month it would strike at the country's top military hierarchy in an obvious bid to goad the armed forces into either toppling the Suarez government or at least imposing a state of siege in the northern Basque country.

King Juan Carlos later called the incident degrading and bluntly warned officers they must respect military discipline.

For Mr. Reinein, the incident pointed up what he termed the disunity of the 315,000-man armed forces.

About ten to 15 per cent of officers in the army, navy and air force are in favour of democracy, while about 20 per cent can be considered reactionaries, Mr. Reinein said.

The rest, he said, are not politically motivated but are very professionally minded.

Besides guerrilla killings, another issue that has riled the conservative military establishment is a far-reaching reform that includes lowering the retirement age.

At present, under the rigid system established by General Franco, generals pass into semi-retirement at the age of 65, and at 70 they must go into full retirement.

The reform, largely the brainchild of General Gutierrez Mellado, would drop the semi-retirement age to 55 and allow officers over the age of 40 to hold commands sooner than now per-